

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings and versions thereof.

Claims 1-14. (cancelled)

Claim 15. (previously presented) A device for introducing gas into a fluidized bed comprising:

at least one gas inlet pipe located underneath and/or above the fluidized bed,

wherein the gas inlet pipe has gas-swirling means at its mouth.

Claim 16. (previously presented) A device of claim 15 wherein the gas-swirling means form at least one narrowing or widening of the pipe lumen.

Claim 17. (previously presented) A device of claim 16 wherein the narrowing has at least one edge.

Claim 18. (previously presented) A device of claim 15 wherein the gas-swirling means comprise a thread.

Claim 19. (previously presented) A device of claim 15 wherein the gas-swirling means comprise at least one bead.

Claim 20. (currently amended) A device of claim 15 wherein the gas-swirling means comprise at least one screen, at least one ~~turbulene~~ ~~turbulence~~ grid and/or at least one perforated diaphragm.

Claim 21. (currently amended) A device of claim 15 wherein the gas comprises ~~ethane~~ ~~ethene~~, oxygen and/or hydrogen chloride.

Claim 22. (previously presented) A fluidized reactor bed comprising a device of claim 15.

Claim 23. (currently amended) A process for the production of 1,2-dichloroethane with a fluidized bed reactor comprising a device for introducing gas, the method comprising:

introducing ~~ethane~~ ~~ethene~~, oxygen and/or hydrogen chloride into a fluidized bed comprising a catalyst,

wherein the device comprises at least one gas inlet pipe located underneath and/or above the fluidized bed and the gas inlet pipe has gas-swirling means at its mouth.

Claim 24. (previously presented) The process of claim 23 wherein the gas inlet pipe is arranged underneath the fluidized bed and the gas current is discharged at an average discharge velocity in the range of from 0.5 to 10 m/s.

Claim 25. (previously presented) The process of claim 23 wherein the gas inlet pipe is arranged underneath the fluidized bed and the gas current is discharged at an average discharge velocity in the range of from 3 to 6 m/s.

Claim 26. (previously presented) The process of claim 23 wherein the gas inlet pipe is arranged above the fluidized bed and the gas current is discharged at an average discharge velocity in the range of from 0.7 to 10 m/s.

Claim 27. (previously presented) The process of claim 23 wherein the gas inlet pipe is arranged above the fluidized bed and the gas current is discharged at an average discharge velocity in the range of from 2 to 5 m/s.